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REMARKS

Claims 1, 4, and 6-8 have been amended herein. Upon entry of this amendment, Claims 1-8 will be pending in the above-identified application.

Section 103

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection of Claims 1-6 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over U.S. Patent No. 5,982,553 (Bloom) in view of U.S. Patent No. 5,694,235 (Kajiki) and U.S. Patent No. 6,307,663 (Kowarz).

Claims 1-5 recite, among other things, a stereoscopic image display apparatus comprising a one-dimensional spatial modulator *configured to generate an arbitrary phase distribution* using one-dimensionally arrayed elements that are independently driven, and a scan unit scanning the light to a predetermined direction *to display a stereoscopic image*.

Bloom, Kajiki, and Kowarz, considered alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a stereoscopic image display apparatus comprising a one-dimensional spatial modulator *configured to generate an arbitrary phase distribution*. On page 3 of the Office Action, the Examiner states "arbitrary [is] read as any desired phase such as the phase distribution taught by the Bloom et al. reference." However, the term "arbitrary" is defined in the Encarta® World English Dictionary, North American Edition as "randomly chosen" and similarly in the Cambridge International Dictionary of English as "based on chance rather than being planned or based on reason." In contrast to the present invention, Bloom, Kajiki, and Kowarz, considered alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a stereoscopic image display apparatus comprising a one-dimensional spatial modulator *configured to generate an arbitrary phase distribution*. Because Bloom, Kajiki, and Kowarz individually fail to disclose or suggest these recitations of claims 1-5, the combination of these references also fails to disclose or suggest these recitations of claims 1-5.

Additionally, applying the teachings of Kajiki to modify the image display system of Bloom would not result in a stereoscopic image display apparatus as recited by claims 1-5. Rather, to display a stereoscopic image, Kajiki describes a stereo camera

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including an image-forming lens, a polygonal mirror, a vertical scanning section having a galvano mirror, an optical detector array, a video recorder, and a transmission line. Accordingly, applying the teachings of Kajiki to modify the image display system of Bloom would result in a stereo camera as disclosed by Kajiki, rather than the stereoscopic image display apparatus recited in claims 1-5. Therefore, the combination of Bloom and Kajiki, even further considering Kowarz, does not disclose or suggest the stereoscopic image display apparatus recited in claims 1-5.

Claim 6 recites, among other things, a stereoscopic image display apparatus comprising a Grating Light Valve device having a plurality of ribbon-like elements and *configured to generate an arbitrary phase distribution*, a collimator lens making the light modulated by said Grating Light Valve device into parallel ray, a scan unit scanning the parallel ray coming from said collimator lens, a lens performing Fourier transformation on the scanned ray, and a diffuser panel diffusing the ray Fourier transformed by said lens to *display a stereoscopic image*.

As discussed above, Bloom, Kajiki, and Kowarz, considered alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a stereoscopic image display apparatus comprising a Grating Light Valve device *configured to generate an arbitrary phase distribution*. Because Bloom, Kajiki, and Kowarz individually fail to disclose or suggest these recitations of claim 6, the combination of these references also fails to disclose or suggest these recitations of claim 6. Additionally, as discussed above applying the teachings of Kajiki to modify the image display system of Bloom would not result in a stereoscopic image display apparatus as recited by claim 6. Accordingly, the combination of Bloom and Kajiki, even further considering Kowarz, does not disclose or suggest the stereoscopic image display apparatus recited in claim 6.

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the rejection of claims 7 and 8 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Bloom in view of Kajiki.

Claim 7 recites, among other things, a stereoscopic image display apparatus comprising *means for generating an arbitrary phase distribution* by spatially modulating the coherent light in a one-dimensional direction, and *means for scanning the*

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modulated light to a predetermined direction orthogonal to said one-dimensional direction to *display a stereoscopic image*.

As discussed above, Bloom, Kajiki, and Kowarz, considered alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a stereoscopic image display apparatus comprising *means for generating an arbitrary phase distribution*. Because Bloom, Kajiki, and Kowarz individually fail to disclose or suggest these recitations of claim 7, the combination of these references also fails to disclose or suggest these recitations of claim 7. Additionally, as discussed above applying the teachings of Kajiki to modify the image display system of Bloom would not result in a stereoscopic image display apparatus as recited by claim 7. Accordingly, the combination of Bloom and Kajiki, even further considering Kowarz, does not disclose or suggest the stereoscopic image display apparatus recited in claim 7.

Claim 8 recites, among other things, a stereoscopic image display method comprising *generating an arbitrary phase distribution* by spatially modulating the coherent light in a one-dimensional direction, and *displaying a stereoscopic image* by scanning the modulated light to a predetermined direction orthogonal to said one-dimensional direction.

As discussed above, Bloom, Kajiki, and Kowarz, considered alone or in combination, do not disclose or suggest a stereoscopic image display method comprising *generating an arbitrary phase distribution*. Because Bloom, Kajiki, and Kowarz individually fail to disclose or suggest these recitations of claim 8, the combination of these references also fails to disclose or suggest these recitations of claim 8. Additionally, as discussed above applying the teachings of Kajiki to modify the image display system of Bloom would not result in a stereoscopic image display method as recited by claim 8. Accordingly, the combination of Bloom and Kajiki, even further considering Kowarz, does not disclose or suggest the stereoscopic image display method recited in claim 8.

In view of the above, the Section 103 rejection is improper and should be withdrawn.

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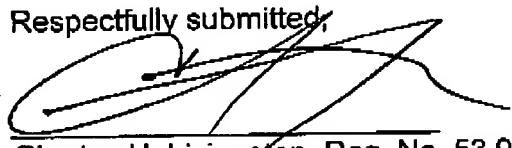
Conclusion

If the Examiner believes that there is any issue which could be resolved by a telephone or personal interview, the Examiner is respectfully requested to contact the undersigned attorney at the telephone number listed below.

As it is believed the application is in condition for allowance, Applicant respectfully requests a favorable action and Notice of Allowance.

Dated: September 16, 2004

Respectfully submitted,



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